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# **Imagery Analysis Monthly Review**

**November 1980**

**Top Secret**

*IS MR 80-009K*

*November 1980*

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# **Imagery Analysis Monthly Review**

**November 1980**

This publication of the Office of Imagery Analysis contains substantive findings and analytical judgments that were derived principally from analysis of imagery. (U)

Comments and queries on the contents of this publication are welcomed. They should be directed to the analyst whose name and secure line extension appear after each article. (U)



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4	<b>New Soviet Rail Line Into Southern Poland (S)</b>	A new 410-kilometer-long Soviet broad-gauge rail line from the city of Hrubieszow on the Soviet-Polish border to Katowice in southern Poland has been completed. The line was in use by early September 1980. [REDACTED]	25X1
5	<b>First Identification of Turn Twist Station in Cuba (S)</b>	The Turn Twist, one of the new Turn Series of Soviet tactical intelligence intercept systems, was identified in Cuba in late October 1980. Previously seen only with Soviet forces in the Warsaw Pact and Afghanistan, the Turn Twist is apparently now part of the Cuban radioelectronic inventory. [REDACTED]	25X1
6	<b>Gas-Oil Separation Plant Damaged in Saudi Arabia (S)</b>	It could take up to a year to repair the Abqaiq 2 Gas-Oil Separation Plant (GOSP) which was extensively damaged by an explosion and fire in early September. [REDACTED]	25X1
8	<b>Reduced Use of Iran's Persian Gulf Commercial Ports (S)</b>	Iran's import capacity at its five major commercial ports on the Persian Gulf has been sharply reduced since the outbreak of war with Iraq, and the new port of Shah Bandar Abbas near the Strait of Hormuz has been put into emergency service before construction was completed. [REDACTED]	25X1
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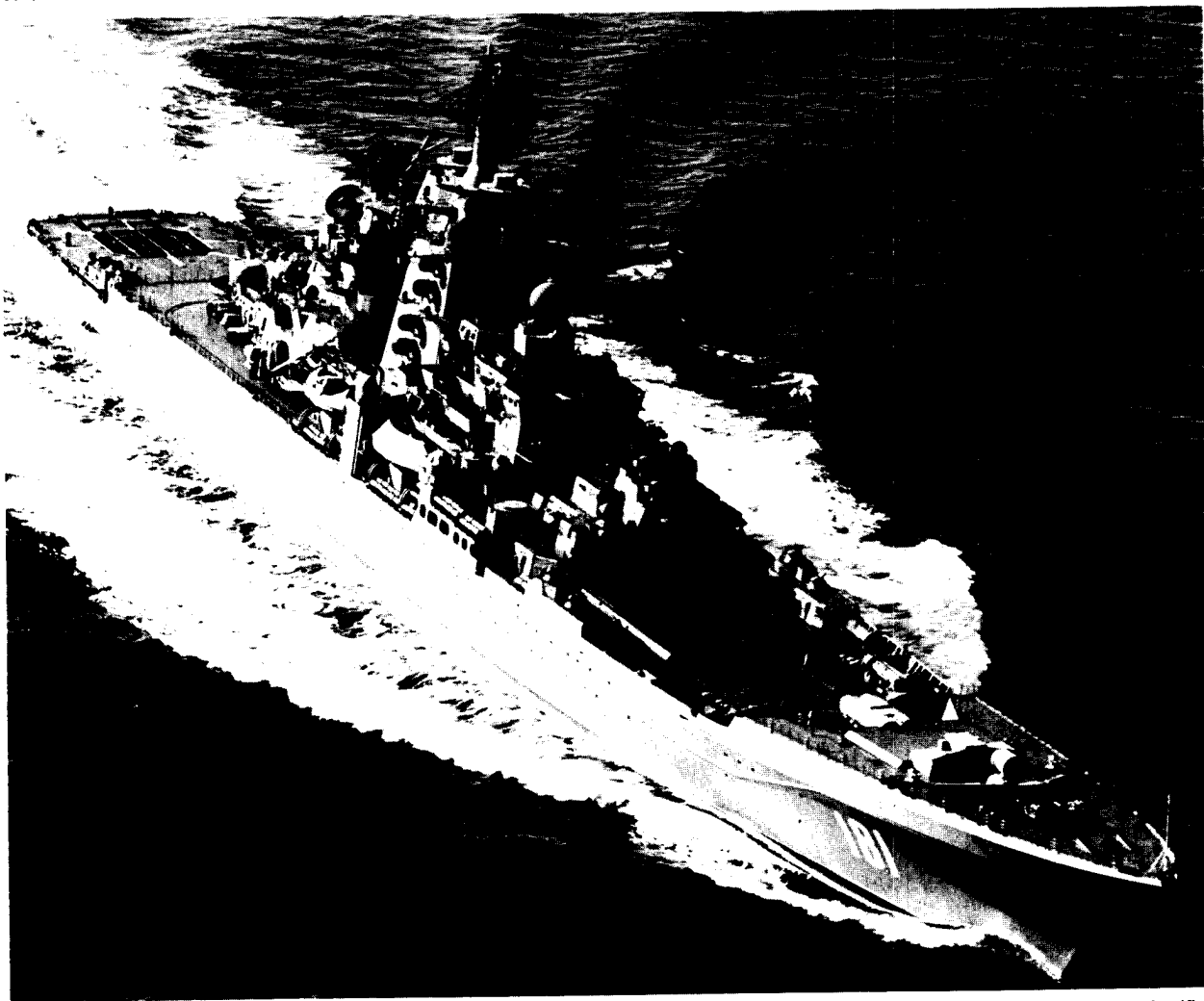
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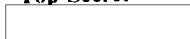
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**Kirov-Class CGN Enroute  
to the Northern Fleet (U)**



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### **New Soviet Cruiser May Soon Conduct Missile Firings in the Northern Fleet Area (S)**

The new Soviet Kirov-class nuclear-powered guided-missile cruiser (CGN) may soon conduct the first test firings of its SS-NX-19 antiship cruise missile system and SA-NX-6 surface-to-air missile system. The firings will be conducted in the White Sea—perhaps by the end of the year. New Soviet surface combatants equipped with long-range cruise missiles—usually the lead ship in a class—have historically deployed to the Northern Fleet to conduct test firings. [REDACTED]

The cruiser departed the Baltic Sea following its sea trials in late September 1980 and had arrived at Severomorsk Naval Base in the Northern Fleet by early October. When the new cruiser was imaged at Severomorsk on [REDACTED] a floating crane was alongside the ship and two of the hatches covering the SS-NX-19 launch tubes were open. The Kirov-class cruiser is the first ship to be equipped with a surface-launched version of the SS-NX-19 cruise missile. The 20 SS-NX-19 missile launchers on the ship are arranged in four rows of five launch tubes,

each covered by a hatch. The only other vessel equipped with the SS-NX-19 is the Oscar-class nuclear-powered cruise missile submarine (SSGN), which carries 24 SS-NX-19 cruise missiles. [REDACTED]

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The Kirov-class cruiser is also equipped with the SA-NX-6 surface-to-air missile system—the naval version of the SA-X-10. There are 12 launch positions for the SA-NX-6 on the ship. The SA-NX-6 system is also deployed on the Kara-class guided-missile cruiser (CG), the Azov—which served as the test bed for the system—and is part of the weapons system on three 445F-class CGs that are currently under construction at a Nikolayev shipyard. [REDACTED]

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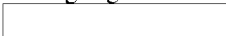
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### New Soviet Rail Line Into Southern Poland (S)

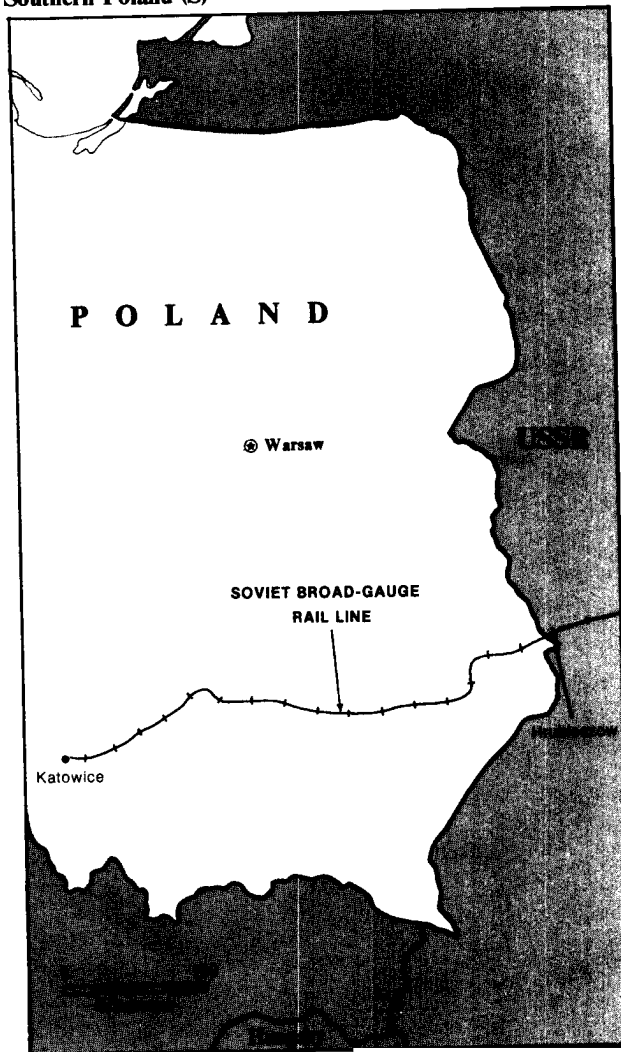
A new Soviet broad-gauge rail line from the city of Hrubieszow on the Soviet-Polish border to Katowice in southern Poland has been completed and was in use by early September 1980. Prior to the completion of this 410-kilometer line, the deepest penetration into Eastern Europe by a Soviet broad-gauge rail was a 92-kilometer line—built by the Soviets in the mid-1960s to transport iron ore into Czechoslovakia. The new single-track line will allow movement of goods into and out of Poland without the usual delays involved in changing from Soviet broad gauge to Polish standard gauge at the border. 

According to a Soviet-Polish agreement, this new rail line will be used to move iron ore from the Soviet Union to the new Zabkowice Iron and Steel Plant near Katowice, coal from central to eastern Poland, and Polish sulfur and steel products to the Soviet Union. It could also be used to move Soviet military equipment and personnel into Poland. No special loading or transfer facilities for this purpose, however, were detected along the route in Poland. 

Analysis of September 1980 photography indicated the line was in use, and unit trains of gondola-hopper railcars of from 40 to 48 cars in length were seen traveling in both directions on the new line. The materials being transported in these railcars could not be determined, but unit trains are normally associated with the transport of bulk materials. 

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Location of New Soviet Rail Line in Southern Poland (S)



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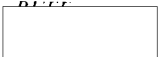
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


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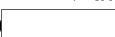



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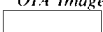
**First Identification of Turn Twist Station in Cuba (S)**

The Turn Twist, one of the new Turn Series of Soviet tactical intelligence intercept systems, was identified in Cuba in late October 1980. Previously, it had been seen only with Soviet units in the Warsaw Pact and Afghanistan. The mobile Turn Twist is a passive, direction-finding system which functions by intercepting aircraft communications. It would provide Cuban forces in the field with capabilities previously available only at fixed sites in Cuba. 

The Turn Twist was at first thought to be destined for deployment with Soviet forces in Cuba, when it was identified on the deck of a Soviet arms carrier which stopped at the Cuban port of Mariel in March 1980.<sup>1</sup> It apparently is now part of the Cuban radioelectronic inventory, however. The Turn

Twist and associated electronics vehicles were seen at a major Cuban communications facility near Bejucal on imagery of  On imagery of  a Turn Twist station was deployed at the Cuban military garrison at Cardenas, 120 kilometers east of Bejucal. Most likely, only one set of Turn Twist equipment has been delivered to Cuba, and this equipment was moved from Bejucal to Cardenas—perhaps as a mobility exercise. Imagery of  showed that the Turn Twist and associated equipment had been removed from Cardenas and that the equipment was present at Bejucal. 

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<sup>1</sup>CIA. IS MR 80-005K  *Soviet Mobile Direction-Finding Station Shipped to Cuba.* OIA Imagery Analysis Monthly Review, June 1980 (Top Secret RUFF 



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### Gas-Oil Separation Plant (GOSP) Damaged in Saudi Arabia (S)

In early September 1980, the Abqaiq 2 Gas-Oil Separation Plant (GOSP) in Saudi Arabia was reported to have been seriously damaged by an explosion and fire. Photography of [ ] almost two months after the explosion, showed that extensive damage had occurred to the processing area of the GOSP. The GOSP—a facility designed to separate gas from crude oil after it flows out of the well head—is one of five GOSPs serving the Abqaiq oilfield and was capable of processing 240,000 barrels of oil per day. It will probably take a minimum of one year to rebuild the Abqaiq 2 GOSP. [ ]

however, may find it difficult to maintain this high level of production. Saudi Arabia has already made two major production increases in the past two years—to offset decreased oil exports in 1979 from Iran, and more recently from Iraq. Although the recent loss could be offset by temporarily raising the output of the Ghawar oilfield, which is the world's largest, it does entail some risk. Overproducing a reservoir can cause a change in the physical properties of the producing zones and lead to both short- and long-term problems for the reservoir. [ ]

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The recent loss of the GOSP affects only a small portion of total Saudi production, which has been more than 10 million barrels a day. The Saudis,

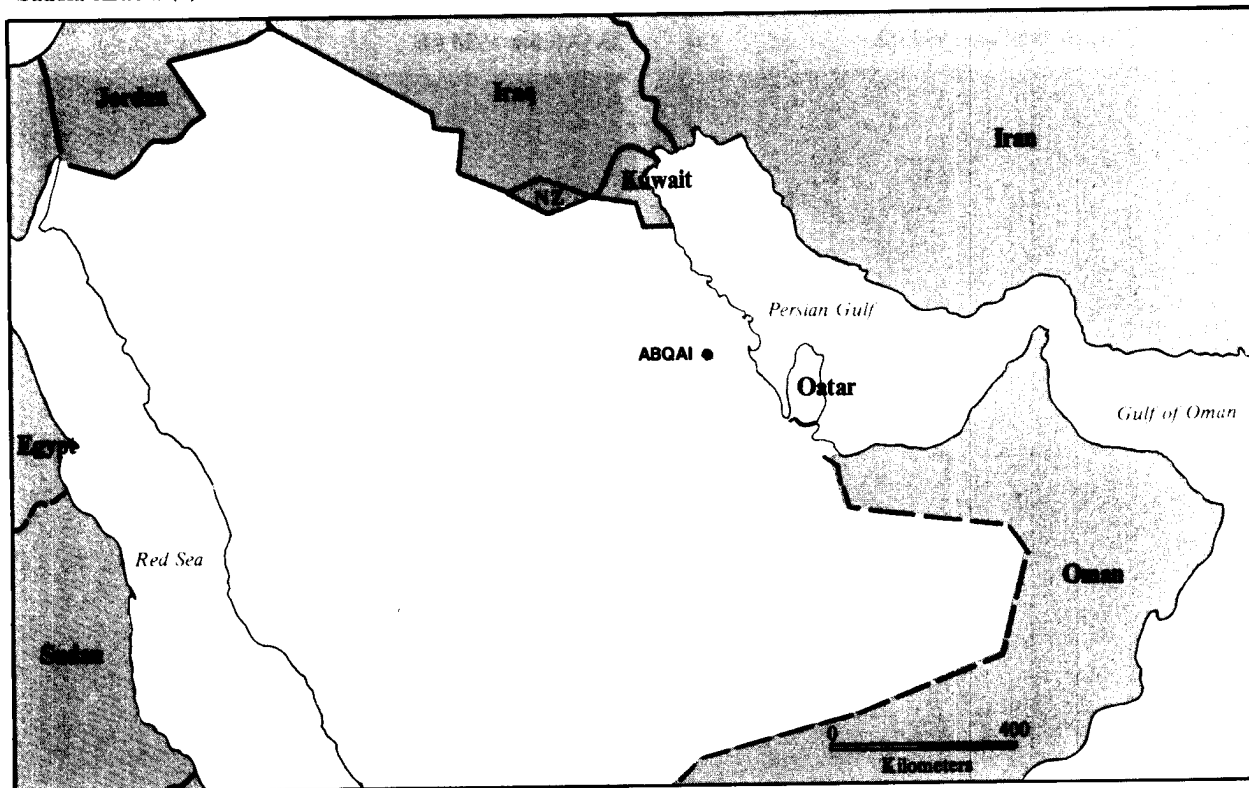
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#### Location of Abqaiq 2 Gas-Oil Separation Plant, Saudi Arabia (S)



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### Reduced Use of Iran's Persian Gulf Commercial Ports (S)

Iran's import capacity at its five major commercial ports on the Persian Gulf has been sharply reduced since the outbreak of war with Iraq in late September. The total number of berths in use at these ports declined from 50 before the war to only 22 by early November. These include six berths at the new port of Shah Bandar Abbas, which was put into emergency service before it was completed. (S)

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The ports of Abadan and Khorramshahr on the Shatt al Arab—which accounted for a total of 14 berths—have been closed. In addition, the berths in use at Bandar Khomeini, Iran's largest port, declined from 27 to six between

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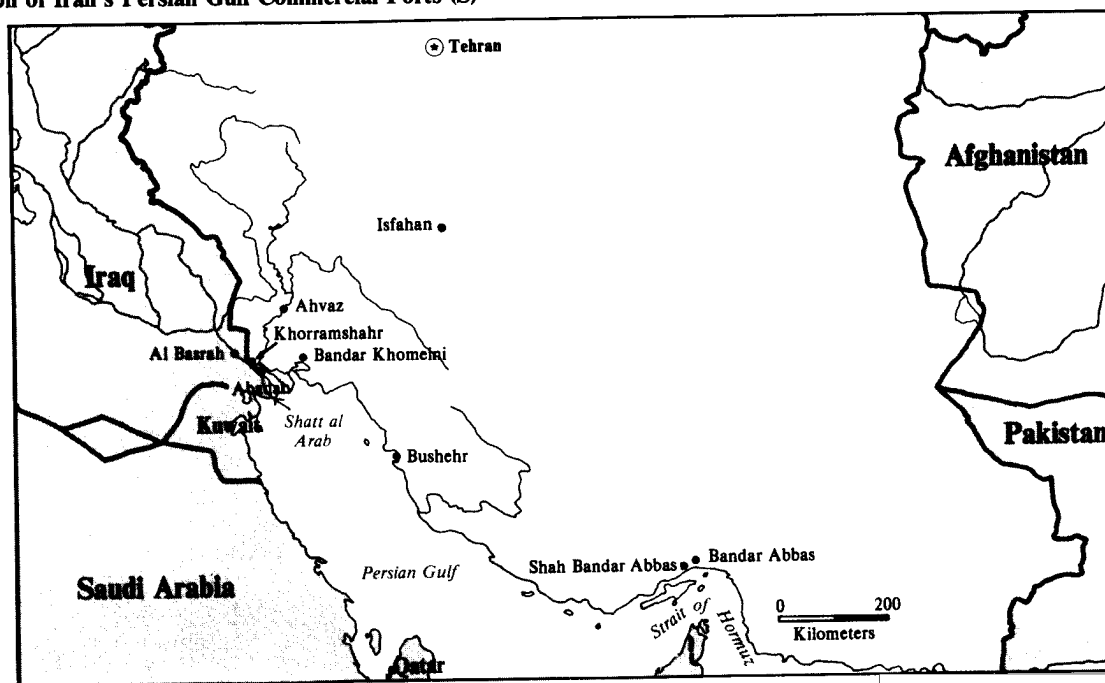
Although not on the Shatt al Arab, Bandar Khomeini is close to the fighting, and the risk of damage to shipping is high. The Iranians are still operating two ports—Bushehr with two berths (a decrease of one) and Bandar Abbas with eight berths (a decrease of two).

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### Location of Iran's Persian Gulf Commercial Ports (S)



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## New OIA Publications

The following reports have been published by the Office of Imagery Analysis since the last issue of the *Imagery Analysis Monthly Review*.

### Imagery Research Papers

1. IS 80-10085K [ ] *Soviet Torpedo Research and Development, Production and Distribution*, October 1980 (Top Secret RUFF [ ]) 25X1  
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2. IS 80-10107K [ ] *Gasfield Development in Western Siberia, USSR*, September 1980 (Top Secret RUFF [ ]) 25X1  
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3. IS 80-10158K [ ] *Cherepovets Metallurgical Plant, USSR*, October 1980 (Top Secret RUFF) 25X1

### Imagery Analysis Memorandums

1. IS 80-10172, OIA/LFD 149/80, *The Soviet 4th Army, Transcaucasus Military District, 1974-1980* (Secret [ ]) 25X1
2. IS 80-10178, OIA/MSD 160/80, *New Phased Array Radar Under Construction at Pushkino, USSR* (Secret [ ]) 25X1
3. IS 80-10155, OIA/LFD 137/80, *Soviet Heavy Artillery Brigades* (Secret [ ]) 25X1  
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4. IS 80-10110K, [ ] *Analysis of Large Launch Dock at Severodvinsk Shipyard 402, USSR* (Top Secret RUFF [ ]) 25X1  
25X1
5. IS 80-10183, OIA/MSD 167/80, *New Type ICBM Silos Under Construction at Plesetsk Missile/Space Test Center* (Secret [ ]) 25X1
6. IS 80-10185, OIA/MSD 173/80, *Propellant Handling and Storage at SS-18 Complexes* (Secret [ ]) 25X1  
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7. IS 80-10181, *Imagery Review of Activity at Sverdlovsk Ceramics Plant, USSR* (Secret [ ]) 25X1  
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8. IS 80-10174K, [ ] *Very-Low-Frequency Communications Transmitter Station, Chaldovar, USSR* (Top Secret RUFF [ ]) 25X1  
25X1
9. IS 80-10182, OIA/LFD 165/80, *Two New Armor Battalions Identified in North Korea's 6th Corps* (Secret [ ]) 25X1
10. IS 80-10192K, [ ] *Soviet Brigade Activity in Cuba—April through September 1980* (Top Secret RUFF [ ]) 25X1  
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11. IS 80-10194K,  *Iran/Iraq War: Iranian Reinforcement of Dezful* (Top Secret RUFF

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12. IS 80-10198K,  *Israeli Crude Oil Holdings for September 1980* (Top Secret RUFF

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